

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Richard LEVY)	
)	
Serial No.: To Be Assigned)	Group Art Unit: Parent Application
)	1721
37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) Continuation)	
Application of Parent Application)	Examiner: Parent Application
)	M. Medley
Serial No. 08/943,123)	
Filed: October 3, 1997)	
)	
Filed: To Be Assigned)	
)	
For: SUPERABSORBENT POLYMER-)	
LUBRICANT COMPOSITIONS ON)	
SUBSTRATE)	

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Please amend the above identified 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) continuation application based on parent application Serial No. 08/943,123 filed October 3, 1997 as follows, preliminary to an examination of the application on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-56 without prejudice or disclaimer

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

Please add the following claims.

--57. A substrate coated with an essentially water-free composition, wherein said composition comprises a superabsorbent polymer in combination with a compound wherein said compound comprises a petroleum lubricant, synthetic lubricant, grease, or solid lubricant, wherein said compound optionally contains a lubricant additive.

58. The substrate of claim 57 wherein said compound is a petroleum lubricant or synthetic lubricant and wherein said compound optionally contains an additive which is a detergent or a dispersant.

59. The substrate of claim 57 wherein said superabsorbent polymer is neutralized or cross-linked, and is based on acrylic acid, acrylamide, or an acrylate.

60. The substrate of claim 58 wherein said superabsorbent polymer is neutralized or cross-linked, and is based on acrylic acid, acrylamide, or an acrylate.

61. The substrate of claim 57 wherein said essentially water free composition comprises a superabsorbent polymer, and said compound is a petroleum oil, a silicone, an organic ester, or a glycol and combinations thereof.

62. The substrate of claim 61 wherein said silicone is a siloxane, low molecular weight silicone polymer, or diorgano silicon oxide.

63. The substrate of claim 57[✓] wherein said substrate comprises cable.

64. The substrate of claim 57[✓] wherein said substrate comprises a wire.

65. The substrate of claim 57[✓] wherein said composition comprises a product made by the process of combining said superabsorbent polymer with said compound, and said additive, when present.

66. The substrate of claim 62[✓] wherein said composition comprises a product made by the process of combining said superabsorbent polymer with said compound, and said additive, when present.

67. A method of protecting a substrate from the affects of water or water migration comprising coating said substrate with an essentially water-free composition, wherein said composition comprises a superabsorbent polymer in combination with a second compound wherein said second compound is a petroleum lubricant, synthetic lubricant, grease, or solid lubricant, and wherein said second compound optionally contains a lubricant additive.

68. The method of claim 67 wherein said compound is a petroleum lubricant or synthetic lubricant and wherein said compound optionally contains an additive which is a detergent or a dispersant.

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

69. The method of claim 67 wherein said superabsorbent polymer is neutralized or cross-linked, and is based on acrylic acid, acrylamide, or an acrylate.

70. The method of claim 68 wherein said superabsorbent polymer is neutralized or cross-linked, and is based on acrylic acid, acrylamide, or an acrylate.

71. The method of claim 67 wherein said essentially water free composition comprises a superabsorbent polymer, and said compound is a petroleum oil, a silicone, an organic ester, or a glycol and combinations thereof.

72. The method of claim 71 wherein said silicone is a siloxane, low molecular weight silicone polymer, or diorgano silicon oxide.

73. The method of claim 67 wherein said substrate comprises a cable.

74. The method of claim 67 wherein said substrate comprises a wire.

75. The method of claim 67 wherein said composition comprises a product made by the process of combining said superabsorbent polymer with said compound, and said additive, when present.

LAW OFFICES

NNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

76. The method of claim 72 wherein said composition comprises a product made by the process of combining said superabsorbent polymer with said compound, and said additive, when present.

77. The substrate of claim 57 wherein the particle size of the superabsorbent polymer is from about less than 0.5 microns to about 300 microns.

REMARKS

The present application substantially copies claims from WO 00/31752, claiming priority from Rebouillat et al. United States Patent provisional patent application 60/109,719 filed November 24, 1998, subsequently filed as United States Patent application 09/443,695 on November 19, 1999. Applicant points out that the great grandparent application Serial No. 08/487,436 on which the present application is based has a filing date of June 7, 1995 and that the present application is also based on Continuation-In-Part Application Serial No. 08/583,582 filed January 5, 1996. Both applications precede the Rebouillat et al. applications by more than one year. As of the filing of this application, applicant's attorneys have determined that the Rebouillat et al. application has not issued as a United States Patent.

Applicant's attorneys request the examination of the present application by the same Examiner in charge of the examination of Rebouillat et al. United States Patent application 09/443,695.

If filing this preliminary amendment requires an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 in the parent application and payment of an extension of time fee or

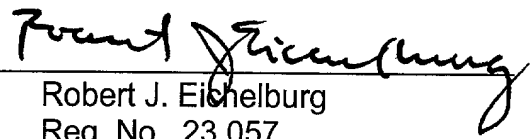
LAW OFFICES

INNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

other fee, any of which this preliminary amendment fails to account for, applicant's attorneys request such an extension and payment of any fees due from their Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: 
Robert J. Eichelburg
Reg. No. 23,057

Dated: February 9, 2001

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000